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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The complaints generally related to certain temporary appointments made by the District Magistrates to the posts of Clerks, Copyists and Peons in the Criminal Courts in the District. Instructions have been issued by the Government for the replacement of the temporary hands by fully qualified persons, as soon as possible.

Pettaikulam Tank

* 168 Q.—SRI M. K. SOMASUNDARAM (on behalf of Sri M. S. Selvarajan) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the extent of the ayacut under the tank (Pettaikulam) in Palliputhu in the Tiruchendur taluk;

(b) whether any representation has been received from the villages praying for making arrangements for the supply of water to the tank and suggesting ways and means therefor; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (a) 260·57 acres.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Agniyar Scheme

* 170 Q.—SRI M. K. MARIAPPAN (on behalf of Sri V. Arunachala Thevar) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state what action has been taken on the Agniyar scheme in Alangudi taluk, Pudukkottai area?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : The Government have sanctioned the detailed investigation of the scheme and the Chief Engineer for Irrigation has been asked to formulate an economic scheme.

Tahsildars

* 171 Q.—SRI V. K. KRISHNAMURTHI (on behalf of Sri S. Lazar) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the basis on which the list of Tahsildars in the various districts is prepared by the Board of Revenue;

(b) whether any " communal ratio " was observed in drawing the list of Tahsildars of Tiruchirappalli district for 1958;

(c) whether there is any effective remedy for an aggrieved person; and

(d) the number of cases subsequently included in the list of Tahsildars for 1957 with respect to any district on seeking such remedy?

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THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (*a*) The Collectors of all districts send proposals for inclusion of names in the approved lists of Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars every year within a prescribed date to the Board of Revenue. The Board of Revenue examines the Collector's proposals and finalises them within one month from the date of receipt of the Collector's proposals. Then the approved lists are published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*. Promotion as Tahsildar from among Deputy Tahsildars is made on ground, of merit and ability of the candidates, seniority being considered only in cases where merit and ability are approximately equal.

(*b*) No, Sir. The rule of reservation of appointments for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes is not applicable to appointments to the category of Tahsildars.

(*c*) Yes, Sir. An aggrieved person can appeal to Government within two months from the date of publication of the approved list in the *Fort St. George Gazette*.

(*d*) One person in each of the Districts of Chingleput, Madurai and Salem has been included in the approved list of Tahsildars for 1957 on appeal to Government.

Agricultural Machinery Advisory Committee

* 173 *Q.*—SRI A. A. RASHEED : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state whether the Members of the Agricultural Machinery Advisory Committee are paid for their services?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : The answer is in the negative.

Dock Workers' Strike

* 175-A *Q.*—SRI A. A. RASHEED : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state the number of tear-gas shells fired by the police against the dock workers on 16th June 1958 in the City?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : The police had to fire 62 tear-gas shells and 46 tear-gas grenades for dispersing a mob partly consisting of dock workers which had gathered in front of the Madras Harbour on the morning of 16th June 1958.

SRI A. A. RASHEED : Sir, is there any truth in the statement that if more tear gas shells had been used. the loss of life would have been prevented ?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : It is not correct, Sir.

* 175-B *Q.*—SRI S. PAKKIRISAMI PILLAI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of persons that died as a result of the police firing on 16th June 1958 in the Harbour Division of the City of Madras;